

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to correct an error in the specification. Specifically, the Applicants have corrected the priority claim in the first paragraph of the application. The Applicants had erroneously claimed priority to three provisional patent applications filed in December of 2000.

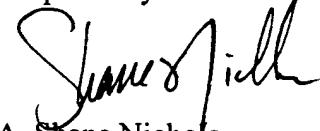
This amendment to the priority claim is being timely submitted, within the later of four months from the actual filing date of the nonprovisional application or sixteen months from the filing date of the prior provisional application as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.78.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-styled patent application, as amended, is in condition for examination and requests such action. If any issues remain that may be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (404) 572-3507.

Respectfully submitted,



A. Shane Nichols  
Reg. No. 43,836

King & Spalding  
45<sup>th</sup> Floor  
191 Peachtree Street, N.E.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
404.572.4600  
K&S Docket: 07982.105010  
2367158

Version with markings to show changes made

--[The present application claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Multi-level Logic for Optical Transceivers," filed on December 21, 2000 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/257,598. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Advanced Signal Encoding/Decoding Techniques for Equalization of Multilevel Optical Communication Signals," filed on December 21, 2000 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/257,596. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Method for Mode Separation Imaging and Detection of the Distinct Spatial Modes of a Multimode Optical Fiber or Multimode Optical Cavity," filed on December 24, 2000 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/257,586. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Higher Order Modulation Techniques for Optical Transceivers," filed on December 21, 2000 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/257,551.] The present application [also] claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Method of QAM Generation and Demodulation Techniques," filed on April 19, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/284,457. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Mixed Signal Processing for Distortion Compensation of Multilevel Optical Communication Signals," filed on March 29, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/279,916. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Automatic Threshold Tracking and Digitization Method for Multilevel Signals," filed on April 4, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/281,526. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Parallel Noise Filtering for Multi-Level Optical Data Reception," filed on April 24, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/286,070. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Adaptive Equalizer for Multi-Level Optical Data Receiver," filed on April 19, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/284,949. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "Linearization of Optical Modulation," filed on April 19, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/284,964. The present application also claims priority to

provisional patent application entitled, "System and Method for Increasing Throughput in Optical Fiber Transmission Systems," filed on July 11, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/304,718. The present application also claims priority to provisional patent application entitled, "High-Speed Multilevel Light Modulator Driver Circuit," filed on May 9, 2001 and assigned U.S. Application Serial No. 60/289,674.--